

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 11/23/2016

Contact: Adriane Barnes, (501) 516-6255, adriane.barnes@arkansas.gov

Arkansas Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory Achieves Accreditation

Little Rock, Ark. – The Arkansas Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory was notified earlier this month that it has achieved accreditation by the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation for the activities listed on A2LA Scope of Accreditation 4109.01. Accreditation by A2LA verifies that the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory is performing to the highest standard of laboratory quality and is operating under internationally accepted procedures.

The Arkansas Veterinary Diagnostic Lab is also a member of the National Animal Health Laboratory Network, which is a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) framework for the coordination of federal and state animal disease diagnostic laboratory infrastructure, capabilities, and capacities.

"We could not have accomplished this without the hard work and dedication of every single member of our staff. We are exceptionally proud of this accomplishment, and I am honored to be a part of such a dedicated, hard-working and unified team," said Dr. Linda F. Meola, Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory Director.

A2LA is the only independent, non-profit, internationally-recognized accreditation body in the United States that offers a full range of comprehensive laboratory and laboratory-related accreditation services and training. Learn more about A2LA accreditation and other A2LA accredited laboratories, here: https://www.a2la.org.

The Arkansas Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory assists the livestock and poultry industries, private veterinarians, and animal owners of Arkansas by diagnosing and monitoring animal diseases that can affect humans, reduce the productivity or marketability of animals, threaten animal populations, and affect the safety or quality of animal products. The lab also plays a key public health role by utilizing the One Health approach to disease investigation. Learn more about the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at: http://alpc.arkansas.gov/lab or call the laboratory office at 501-907-2430.

The Arkansas Agriculture Department is dedicated to the development and implementation of policies and programs for Arkansas agriculture and forestry to keep its Farmers and Ranchers competitive in national and international markets while ensuring safe food, fiber and forest products for the citizens of the state and nation.

###

The Arkansas Agriculture Department offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.